

2/10/84

Dear Dr. Kerwin:

Thank you for yours of 29/8/84 and enclosure. I've examined it carefully. Some parts are a bit beyond my capabilities. Fig. 4-7 will work alright. However there is another alternative. My 1937 dish at Wheaton had a hole at bottom to allow microwave energy to pass thru. The idea was to place the electronics some fifteen feet behind dish for easy access. The technology of the time was not adequate. I suggest a similar hole be made in bottom of your dishes. Only one horn is used at a time. The horns may be placed in a rotating drum behind dish. This allows a fixed secondary mirror. You might bring this matter to the attention of design group.

After examining the financial estimates, I have the unfortunate impression this project has priced itself out of the market on both construction and operation. The people in States are pushing rapidly a similar undertaking. There is ample sky to keep both instruments busy for a generation or more. However, circumstances being what they are, perhaps it would be prudent and wise to drop this promotion. I realize a lot of time, money and effort has gone into CLBA and it seems a shame to abandon it. This general line of scientific undertaking is popular now with a press to ever shorter wavelengths. Perhaps there is another feature of radio astronomy which deserves attention and is not in competition with other endeavours. If you are interested, I can suggest one which is a Canadian monopoly.

Best wishes,

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